

ORDERS CONCEIVED By the Lords of his Maiesties Priuie Counsell, and by

his Highnesse speciall direction, commanded to be put in execution, for the restraint of killing and eating of *Flesh* this next *Lent*, and to be executed aswell by the Lord Maior within the Citie and Suburbs of London, and by the Officers of the Liberties and exempt places in and about the same, as by order to be prescribed by the Lords Lieutenants of all the Counties of the Realme, to the Iustices of Peace, Lords of Liberties, and Officers of Corporate Townes.

16 February, in the ninth yeere of his Maiesties Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.



The Kings most Excellent Maiestie vnderstanding of the great disorders heretofore, and especially the last *Lent*, committed in killing and eating *Flesh* in the time of *Lent*, chiefly in the Citie of London, and the Liberties thereto adioyning, straitly chargeth and commandeth, That these Orders following, be obserued and put in execution.

First, there shall bee onely eight Butchers licenced by the Lord Maior within the City of London, viz. Foure in Eastcheape, and foure in S. Nicholas Shambles, who shall be of the poozer sort, and shall not pay any thing for their Licences, nor ioyne with them any partners.

That euery of the said Butchers so to be licenced within the said Citie, and Liberties thereof, doe vtter and sell in their open Shops, in such sort as in open time they are accustomed to doe, and at such Rates and prices as shall be set downe by Order of the Lord Maior of London for that Citie, and the Liberties thereof: and besides euery Butcher shall keepe a perfect Booke what quantitie of *Flesh* they kill euery day, and of what kindes, and to what persons they sell and vtter the same, and the said Butchers to certifie the Lord Maior, to the end the Lords of his Maiesties priuie Counsell may be informed by him, how the Lawes and Statutes in this behalfe prouided, are obserued within the said Citie and Liberties thereof.

That there be Licenced to kill and vtter *Flesh* in the Suburbs of the sayd Citie, as in the Counties of Middlesex and Surrey neere vnto London, onely eight Butchers, And these to be Licenced by the Iustices within the seuerall Limits, whereof two to be of the Quorum, That is, Two without Smithfelde Barres in the Parish of S. Pulchres, or Clarketon Well, or one of them, One in Whitecrosse street, One in Porton Folgate, One in Whitechappel, One in S. Katherines, Two in Southwarke; And for the Citie of Westminster, and the Liberties thereof, as also for the Liberties of the Duchie of Lancaster, five Butchers, That is, Two without Temple Barre, in the Parish of Saint Clement Danes, in the Liberties of the said Duchie, and three in the Citie of Westminster and the Liberties thereof, to be Licenced by the chiefe Officers of those Liberties, and those to bee (as is before expressed) of the poozer sort inhabiting in those places, And to be licenced without any money, or other consideration to be giuen for the same, and to bee bound to obserue the like Orders in euery respect as those that are to be appointed for London, and the Clarke of the Market, Officer and Justice, there to see them, and to set the prices of the victuall to be vttered in those places.

That no person be permitted to kill or sell any *Flesh*, but to those that are licenced, nor in any other place then before is specified, vpon paine to forfeit the *Flesh* to bee giuen to the pooze in the prisons, and to suffer imprisonment.

That the Constables, Churchwardens, and other publike Officers be authorized in London & the Liberties thereof, by the Lord Maior, and the Iustices in the Counties of Middlesex and Surrey, and the forenamed Officers in Westminster, to make search, and to see that the Licenced Butchers, nor any other doe kill or vtter any *Flesh*, nor doe any thing contrary to these orders.

And for the better knowledge of the truth of disorders in this kind, & redresse of the inconueniences, the Lord Maior of London, & euery other Officer here appointed, shall call before them, and send for any of the seruants of any Inholders, Victuallers, Cookes, Lauerners, and keepers of ordinary

10

Tables, and such other that utter Victuals, to examine them vpon their corporall Oathes, what Flesh is, or hath bene during the Lent season, dressed, killed, uttered, or eaten in their houses, which if they shall refuse to do, then to commit to prison the said seruants so refusing vpon their Oathes to declare the trueth.

That the Lord Maior himselfe shall grant no warrant for buying of flesh in Lent, but to such as shall haue to shew to him licence in writing, according to the Lawes of the Realme to eat Flesh, and the same Licence to bee viewed and Registred, and Bookes to bee kept thereof, to bee shewed when the same shall be required, vnlesse it be to Ambassadors and Agents for foraine Princes.

That the Lord Maior shall now presently before Lent, or at the beginning thereof, call all Inholders, keepers of Ordinary Tables, Victuallers, Alehouse keepers, and Tauerneors within the City and Liberties thereof to appeare before him, or such persons as hee shall appoint meete for that purpose, and shall take Bonds with sufficient Sureties of euery of them in good summes of money, viz. one hundred pound the principall, and the Sureties thirty pound apiece to his Maiesties vse, not to dresse any Flesh in their houses this Lent time for any respect, nor suffer it to be eaten except it bee for some such person that lyeth in their house, that also hath Licence through sicknesse, or other necessary cause to eat Flesh. Also like bonds shall be taken of the Poulters, not to utter any Poultry Ware, but to such as shall bee likewise licenced to eat Flesh, and that such as will not giue such Bonds, that they be secluded from all utterance of Victuals during the Lent season, excepting those Poulters that doe ordinarily serue his Maiesties Household, of whom like Bonds shall be taken by his Maiesties Officers of the Greencloth: the like bonds with Sureties shall be taken of the like persons vpon like penalties by the chiefe Officer of Westminster, and the liberties thereof.

And for the Butchers, & other that come with Victuals of flesh out of the Country to the City, the Lord Maior shall cause certaine persons to watch at the Gates, and other like places in the Suburbs, where flesh may bee brought in, to view and intercept the same, The Carriers of the said Victuals of Flesh if any shall be taken, to be guided to the persons houses that haue licence, and this watch to be continued daily during the whole time of Lent: and if any of those Watchmen be found negligent and corrupt in his charge, then hee to bee committed to prison, there to continue during the whole Lent. And in case the same shall bee found to bee brought to any person not warranted, or licensed to eat it as aforesaid, then the same to be forfeited and sold at the direction of the Lord Maior for the vse of the poore in the Hospitals and Prisons in the Citie, and the bringers to bee imprisoned.

And for that it is to be doubted that the Fishmongers, vpon the obseruation of the said Orders, will take occasion thereby to inhance the prices as well of fresh as of Sea fish, it is thought meete that the Lord Maior shall take order with the sayd Fishmongers, that as well the salt as fresh fish shall be uttered at reasonable prices.

That euery of the Butchers to bee licensed as aforesayd, bee bound in a sufficient Bond with good Sureties to his Maiesties vse, to obserue these orders in euery respect, and these bonds to bee taken by the Lord Maior, and other the officers aforesaid.

And as those orders are expressely deuised to be executed in the City of London, and places neere to the same: so his Maiesties pleasure & commandement is, that the execution of these or like orders bee performed by the Commandement of his Maiesties Lieutenants to bee sent to the Iustices of Peace in all Shires within their Rule, and to all other Officers in Townes Corporate, or in any Liberties, with like order for the Bonds to be taken to his Maiesties vse.

Imprinted at London by Robert Barker,

Printer to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie.

ANNO DOM. 1611.

